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Sixty-eighth session

Summary record of the 706th meeting
Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Wednesday, 4 October 2017, at 3 p.m.

Chair: Ms. Dalil (Vice-Chair) ..... (Afghanistan)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

General debate (*continued*)

1. **Mr. Braithwaite** (United Kingdom) said that his country aligned itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its member States. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) should have sufficient resources to protect all refugees, in particular those most vulnerable. The Government of the United Kingdom was deeply committed to the delivery of the Grand Bargain on humanitarian financing and would continue to provide unearmarked funding to the multilateral humanitarian system. UNHCR should work more collaboratively with other actors on the ground, improve transparency, scale up cash assistance and prioritize people's specific needs. The Government welcomed the progress made in rolling out the comprehensive refugee response framework and encouraged UNHCR to continually improve so as to deliver lasting solutions to those in need.

2. **Mr. Dhital** (Observer for Nepal) said that it was critical to tackle racism, xenophobia and intolerance and to foster respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms throughout the world in order to prevent the emergence of humanitarian crises. The current budget constraints risked creating obstacles to the hosting of refugees and displaced persons; however, refugee-hosting developing countries could not endure further financial burdens. Although Nepal was not a party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees or its 1967 Protocol, it had hosted Bhutanese refugees for more than 20 years. The third-country resettlement of over 100,000 Bhutanese refugees had begun in 2008. The Government of Nepal was willing to hold bilateral discussions with Bhutan to facilitate the resettlement of refugees, and it requested the support of the international community to foster such a dialogue.

3. **Mr. Gave** (France) said that his country aligned itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its member States. It was important to provide safe legal channels to persons in need of protection, to show solidarity towards countries neighbouring conflict areas and to address the root causes of displacement. On 28 August 2017, the Government of France had convened several European and African partner countries affected by migration flows in the central Mediterranean for a meeting at which concrete proposals had been made for strengthening the protection of refugees and expanding resettlement opportunities in close collaboration with UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration. The Government welcomed efforts by UNHCR to implement the comprehensive refugee response framework and to strengthen partnerships with development actors. In the coming months, it planned to increase the country's hosting capacity, expedite its asylum procedures and strengthen its mechanisms for the integration of refugees.

4. **Ms. Batistić Kos** (Croatia) said that her country aligned itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its member States. Croatia actively contributed, within the European Union and at the global level, to finding long-term strategic and humanitarian solutions to the migration and refugee crisis. In 2015, it had managed a flow of more 600,000 refugees and migrants along the Western Balkans migration route with due respect for international human rights standards. Moreover, the crisis that had arisen in 1992, when 800,000 people had been forced from their homes during the civil war, seemed to have been resolved through the implementation of the 2014 recommendation of UNHCR that envisaged the application of the clause on the cessation of refugee status by the end of 2017. The Government had enabled the return of refugees by implementing a huge housing and reconstruction programme and by eliminating the administrative barriers that refugees faced. It was also determined to fully implement the Regional Housing Programme, regardless of the application of the cessation clause.

5. **Mr. Kára** (Czechia) said that his Government aligned itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its member States and welcomed the work that had been carried out on the two global compacts on refugees and migrants. To improve the situation of refugees, it was important to focus on access to education, employment and public services. Czech contributions to UNHCR had risen from US$ 250,000 in 2014 to almost US$ 4 million in 2016. His country provided assistance to countries including Syria,

Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Ukraine; it continued to cooperate with UNHCR in relation to Afghan refugees in Iran and Pakistan; and it supported its priority bilateral development partners — Afghanistan, Cambodia and Ethiopia — in resolving all problems related to refugees and displaced persons. Several other projects involving African countries were being prepared.

6. **Mr. Seck** (Senegal) said that his country aligned itself with the statement delivered by Togo on behalf of the African Group. The closure of borders and the detention or forced repatriation of individuals were not appropriate responses to the current crisis. In that regard, the global compact on refugees would be a tool for improving global humanitarian policy, which should focus more on conflict prevention and the peaceful settlement of disputes. Senegal, which had incorporated the key principles of international protection into its legislation, remained a haven and a land of hospitality despite the insecurity and political instability in sub-Saharan Africa. In collaboration with UNHCR, his Government was registering refugees in the north of the country so as to provide them with adequate assistance.

7. **Mr. Choi** (Republic of Korea) said that the funding gap continued to widen at a time when needs were growing. The discussions on two global compacts for refugees and migrants were encouraging, but it was imperative to address the root causes of displacement, including from the development perspective. There was also a need to diversify sources of funding, particularly in the private sector, and for innovative solutions to reverse the decline in unearmarked funding. The Republic of Korea was working to fulfil its humanitarian responsibilities, and its financial contribution exceeded US$ 20 million; in addition, three years earlier the country had taken in refugees as part of a resettlement programme.

8. **Ms. Farani Azevêdo** (Brazil) said that the principle of solidarity meant that developing countries hosting large numbers of refugees should receive effective support, including financial support, and that legal entry channels should be open for persons in need of protection. The Government of Brazil was concerned that some States had taken steps to restrict the entry and residence of displaced persons, in violation of international humanitarian law. It confirmed its commitment to receiving 3,000 Syrian refugees and was implementing a programme for the resettlement of refugees from the Northern Triangle countries of Central America. Furthermore, a new law on migration guaranteed migrants' rights, promoted their integration and facilitated the acquisition of Brazilian citizenship by stateless persons. Brazil supported the efforts to develop a global compact on refugees; a consultative meeting on that topic would be held in February 2018 in Brasilia with the participation of all countries from the region.

9. **Mr. Al-Sowaidi** (Observer for Qatar) said that in the previous 10 years his country had contributed over US$ 97 billion to UNHCR and had provided funding to over 100 countries, benefiting 10 million children and 1.2 million young people. International assistance provided by Qatar had tripled to 13 billion riyals in the previous five years. Many non-governmental organizations (NGOs) provided employment opportunities for migrants and displaced persons, as well as education for children in conflict areas. In 2015, in partnership with UNHCR and other humanitarian organizations, the Government had set up a vocational training programme for refugees and displaced persons in the Middle East. On 3 October 2017, the NGO Qatar Charity and UNHCR had signed a strategic cooperation agreement that involved establishing relief projects for refugees and displaced persons all over the world, with annual funding of US$ 3 million. Donations and voluntary contributions provided by Qatar in 2017 stood at US$ 26.7 million, 90 per cent of which was allocated to Syria, Yemen and Somalia. As for non-government funding, Qatar had contributed more than US$ 1 billion since the beginning of the crisis in Syria in 2011, together with US$ 1.3 billion in support of the Palestinian cause and over US$ 400 million for Yemen. It had also recently funded a project for the Rohingya people in cooperation with the Qatar Red Crescent. Moreover, the Government had organized various conferences on refugees and displaced persons, including the seventeenth Doha Forum on the safety and stability of refugees, held in May 2017. The Government did not content itself with providing humanitarian and development assistance, but also offered its services as a

mediator in crisis situations, with a view to promoting stability in the region and preventing displacement and refugee flows.

10. **Mr. Majawar** (Yemen) said that Yemen was going through a war that had caused the collapse of its economy and a general deterioration of the situation in the country. About 20 million Yemenis faced food and drinking water shortages and were in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. Despite that situation, Yemen was hosting over 1 million refugees, asylum seekers and migrants, mostly from Somalia, Iraq, Ethiopia and Syria. Thousands of migrants from the Horn of Africa, in particular Ethiopia, continued to flow into the country, aggravating the economic, political and social situation. Even in those difficult circumstances, the Government continued to provide health services and basic education with support from UNHCR and other international organizations. It wished to thank the countries that had provided assistance, and it called for that assistance to be doubled. Lastly, the Government stressed the importance of international protection in the light of the growing number of human trafficking cases. International cooperation was essential to protect displaced persons, in particular women and children.

11. **Mr. Grandi** (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) welcomed the efforts being made by States and thanked them for supporting the work of UNHCR.

12. **Mr. Kristjánsson** (Observer for Iceland) said that in February 2017 Iceland had signed an agreement with UNHCR in which it had committed itself to making yearly unearmarked contributions during the period 2017-2019, in keeping with commitments undertaken at the World Humanitarian Summit. In recent years, the number of refugees granted asylum by the Icelandic authorities had risen significantly. In the coming months the country would welcome 50 refugees, mainly from refugee camps in Lebanon and Jordan, as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender refugees from camps in Kenya. In 2016, over 1,100 asylum seekers had entered the country, and 780 applications for protection had been submitted since the beginning of 2017. Over 200 of those asylum seekers had been granted protection, but the vast majority of applicants came from stable regions and had been sent home.

13. **Mr. Cabrera** (Ecuador) stressed the important role that the Latin American and Caribbean region played in international protection. That role was not always recognized by the international community, whose attention was diverted towards conflicts that received more media coverage. Ecuador, which had increased its hosting capacity by more than 20 per cent in 2016, hosted the largest number of refugees and asylum seekers of any country in the region. Many were Colombians, whose numbers had swelled since the signing of the peace agreements with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). Ecuador fully integrated the refugees it received into its society; they were provided with health and education services, employment opportunities, social protection, and access to administrative and judicial remedies. Few refugees returned to their own countries once the situation there stabilized. The Government had put in place robust protection mechanisms that had been recognized by UNHCR.

14. **Ms. Khan** (Fiji) said that since 2006 the Fijian Government had received and processed a number of applications for protection from persons seeking recognition as refugees. In 2016, the Government and UNHCR had organized a conference on refugee protection with the participation of 13 Pacific island countries. The Government recognized the importance of regional and international collaboration and, like the Pacific region as a whole, was concerned by the issue of climate-displaced people and the urgent need to offer them assistance. In that regard, Fiji had offered to open its doors to citizens of the neighbouring countries of Kiribati and Tuvalu in the event that rising sea levels enveloped them. Some Fijian communities had been forced to relocate owing to climate change impacts.

15. **Ms. Riachi Assaker** (Lebanon) said that the High Commissioner, during his visit to Lebanon in February 2017, had been able to witness at close quarters the dramatic situation that had existed in the country since the onset of the Syrian crisis in 2011. That crisis, which had caused a massive influx of Syrian refugees into Lebanese territory, had overwhelmed national infrastructure and had stretched services to the limit. In 2014 the Government, in cooperation with the United Nations, had developed a national crisis

response plan whose implementation was now under way for the period 2017-2020. The country counted on the support of the international community and donor countries in order to ensure effective implementation of the plan. Unfortunately many donors had not honoured their commitments; the support received was not commensurate with the country's needs and in fact was constantly decreasing. Lebanon lacked the capacity to deal with the Syrian crisis, and the Government continually requested the assistance of the international community in accordance with the principle of burden and responsibility sharing. While hoping to find a lasting solution to the crisis, it believed that measures were needed to lighten the burden on host countries, taking into account the particular situation of each country. It was also necessary to work towards the progressive return of Syrian refugees to stable regions of Syria, which would ease the pressures and tensions that threatened the peace, stability and security of Lebanon. Given that the country was still dealing with the Palestinian refugee crisis, which had endured for over 70 years, it was regrettable that the international community's attention had been diverted from crises of longer standing.

16. **Mr. Aristide** (Benin), recalling that the theme of the session was "Resilience and self-reliance from a protection and solutions perspective", called for more concerted action to assist the most vulnerable refugees in terms of employment and financial autonomy. It was in that context that a letter of understanding had been signed in Cotonou on 6 November 2016 between UNHCR, the National Refugee Assistance Coordination Office and the National Employment Service. Because of its political stability, Benin had always been a favoured destination for asylum seekers, and accordingly it pursued a policy of welcoming and providing durable solutions for refugees, 5,000 of whom had arrived in the country since 2012. Moreover, the Government was committed to strengthening the asylum system by establishing a legal clinic, setting clear procedural time limits for the determination of refugee status and granting refugees the same rights as nationals. The Government fully supported the New York Declaration and was already implementing the comprehensive refugee response framework.

17. **Mr. Correia** (Observer for Angola) said that his country associated itself with the statement delivered by Togo on behalf of the African Group. Recalling that since March 2017 Angola had hosted more than 30,000 refugees, including 13,000 minors, who had fled the Democratic Republic of the Congo following events in Kasai Province, he thanked UNHCR for having launched a call for contributions from the international community on 12 June 2017. However, only 33 per cent of the requested US$ 65 million had been received and distributed to the Lóvua refugee centre in the province of Lunda Norte. Moreover, in recent years Angola had hosted 15,550 refugees and 30,000 asylum seekers, including 2,994 from Liberia, Sierra Leone and Rwanda. Despite the invocation of the cessation clause, all of those refugees enjoyed the rights to education, health care, employment, and social protection and assistance, and they had been provided with arable land. In conclusion, he drew attention to the lack of resources provided by the international community and called for increased solidarity.

18. **Mr. Staur** (Denmark) said that his country aligned itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its member States. He stressed that countries hosting large refugee populations were shouldering huge responsibilities and that the comprehensive refugee response framework should provide the basis for forging new partnerships, promoting sustainable solutions, strengthening solidarity within the international community, increasing the participation of development actors and facilitating knowledge-sharing. In that context, the Government of Denmark applauded the partnership between the World Bank and UNHCR. It would continue to provide funding for UNHCR and to implement development programmes in Uganda, Afghanistan, Kenya, Myanmar and Bangladesh. Lastly, he emphasized the importance of the future global compact on refugees and the need to protect internally displaced persons.

19. **Mr. Kihurani** (Kenya) said that his delegation fully supported the statement delivered by Togo on behalf of the African Group. For almost 30 years, Kenya had provided protection and asylum to thousands of refugees from several African countries. Unfortunately, in extending that welcome, Kenyans had paid a heavy price, including in lives lost in terrorist attacks. For that reason the decision had been taken in May 2016 to

close the Dadaab refugee complex. Since 2014, about 75,000 Somali refugees had been voluntarily repatriated and another 13,000 had been resettled in third countries. As an extension of those efforts and in its desire to assist more than 1 million Somali refugees, in March 2017 the Government had hosted the Special Summit of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, which aimed to find lasting solutions to the protracted crisis in Somalia. The summit had resulted in the adoption of the Nairobi Declaration on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and the Reintegration of Refugees in Somalia and a comprehensive plan of action for its implementation, which aimed to facilitate the granting of legal status to refugees, to provide them with access to health care and the national education system, and to develop infrastructure in refugee-hosting areas. Nevertheless, it was imperative to provide Somalia with financial assistance in order to establish stability and peace. In addition to the many Somali refugees, Kenya was hosting a growing number of refugees from South Sudan, notably at the Kakuma camp in the north-west of the country, which currently held 183,542 refugees, of whom 109,000 were South Sudanese. The Government was working closely with UNHCR to protect those refugees and to expand the capacity of camps. It was regrettable that national security was increasingly being cited as a reason for reducing the number of places available for resettlement in third countries. For instance, only 1,271 individuals had been resettled from Kenya to third countries in 2017, compared with 7,163 in 2016. As part of the solution for ending statelessness in the country, the Government had granted recognition to the Makonde community, a people descended from migrants who had arrived in Kenya after the Second World War but had not applied for citizenship after the country's independence in 1963. Recognition as Kenyan citizens meant that they became the country's forty-third tribe and would be able to fully integrate into society.

20. **Mr. Baran** (Turkey), stressing the need to assist not only the 68 million displaced people in the world but also the countries that hosted them, said that the high-level plenary meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants held in September 2016 had been an important step towards reaching understanding on the need to share responsibilities on a global scale and to find lasting solutions to the crisis. Turkey abided by its commitments undertaken at the World Humanitarian Summit and cooperated with various humanitarian and development actors, including in Rakhine State in Myanmar. Moreover, Turkey sheltered close to 3.3 million refugees, including more than 3 million Syrians, making it the country hosting the largest number of refugees in the world. Although the Government strove to provide them with protection and access to education and health care, it did not have sufficient capacity to meet those needs and required greater support from the international community. In addition, further to the outcome of the summit between Turkey and the European Union held on 18 March 2016, the Government had managed to reduce the number of people crossing the Aegean Sea. In so doing, it saved lives at sea while combating human smuggling. Turkey had always opposed the politicization of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, and it regretted that the delegation of Armenia had exploited the body to repeat unfounded allegations about the events of 1915.

21. **Ms. Kierzkowska** (Poland) said that Poland aligned itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its member States. In 2016 and 2017, the Government of Poland had increased its humanitarian aid to both refugees and host communities in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Ukraine. Nevertheless, it was necessary to further strengthen international efforts to find sustainable solutions, combat human trafficking and improve resilience. In that regard, it was important to have more data in order to better predict the consequences of events resulting in massive population displacements. For that reason her Government welcomed the initiative of UNHCR to develop, over the coming three years, a system for collecting data on forced displacement.

22. **Mr. Grandi** (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) welcomed the efforts being made by States and thanked them for supporting the work of UNHCR.

23. **Mr. Boukili** (Morocco) reaffirmed his country's support for Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, which continued to bear a heavy burden in the refugee crisis by hosting a growing number of Syrian refugees. The dizzying increase in the number of displaced persons in the world, which had reached 65.5 million in 2016, left the international community with no

choice but to develop a more robust and coordinated response to the challenge of delivering assistance, protection and comprehensive solutions for those affected. To assist Bangladesh, which was facing a massive influx of Rohingya fleeing Myanmar, the Government had dispatched tents, blankets, basic foodstuffs and essential medicines. It had also provided emergency humanitarian assistance to Sierra Leone to enable it to help flood victims. The Government considered that UNHCR had a statutory obligation to register the people living in the Tindouf camps in Algeria and that by implementing that technical measure it would be able to determine the number of people under its mandate, quantify the humanitarian assistance allocated to them and strengthen the conditions for their protection. Pending a political settlement, UNHCR should ensure that those persons received protection and were able to enjoy their fundamental rights in accordance with international refugee law and international human rights law.

24. **Mr. Ramadan** (Egypt), indicating that his country supported the statement delivered by Togo on behalf of the African Group, said that the increase in the number of refugees fleeing conflicts and climate change impacts required the international community to undertake additional efforts to tackle the root causes of problems and mitigate their consequences, especially in the Middle East and Africa. The fact that 60 per cent of the 2017 budget of UNHCR had not yet been funded weighed heavily on its response capacity and increased the pressure on the countries hosting refugees and displaced persons. The Government of Egypt called on donor countries to provide UNHCR with funding that was not earmarked for specific regions or conflicts, thereby allowing it some leeway to distribute the resources at its disposal according to the priorities of the moment and the regions in which crises arose. The number of registered refugees and asylum seekers in Egypt had risen in 2017 compared with 2016 and it was known that still greater numbers were actually present in the country. Despite that difficult situation, the Government assumed its responsibilities and continued to cooperate with UNHCR and its Cairo office in order to further improve refugees' living conditions and to provide them with all necessary assistance. The Government's view was that reality called for the international community to redefine the principle of burden sharing in accordance with the respective capacities of States and the principle of fairness. Moreover, it recommended the development of a mechanism that would allow the cost of hosting refugees to be measured for each country.

25. **Mr. Klinge** (Finland), supporting the statements delivered on behalf of the European Union and its member States and the group of friends of the "I Belong" campaign of UNHCR, said that the international community should assist the Rohingya, first and foremost through the intervention of UNHCR. The Finnish Government wished to pay tribute to the 11 countries that were applying the comprehensive refugee response framework at the national level. It was the primary responsibility of Governments to identify the causes of displacements and to find the resources to handle them. Not only did refugees need the support of the international community, they also required prospects for the future. That called for the creation of a wider coalition of humanitarian and development actors, financial institutions, experts in reintegration and representatives of civil society organizations.

26. **Ms. Masana García** (Peru) said the future global compact on refugees should affirm that the hosting of refugees was not a political issue but a humanitarian one, that each humanitarian crisis was different depending on the country in which it occurred, and that the international community's acceptance of shared responsibility for refugees everywhere was a sign of solidarity based on the concept of justice and not an act of charity. Peru had taken in over 11,000 Venezuelans and had issued them temporary residence permits on humanitarian grounds. In August 2017, the Government of Peru and UNHCR had jointly held the third regional meeting on statelessness to examine the procedures for determining statelessness and for the facilitated naturalization of stateless persons. More than 40 representatives of Governments from the Americas region had participated in the meeting.

27. **Ms. Kreitus** (Latvia), supporting the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its member States, said that her country continued to rehouse and resettle persons in clear need of international protection within the framework of the relevant European schemes. The Government of Latvia also contributed to efforts to alleviate the pressure on the external borders of European Union member States, providing both personnel and technical support.

28. **Ms. Juarez** (Observer for Honduras) said that the shared responsibilities of States in addressing population displacement should also include combating structural causes such as drug trafficking, organized crime and human-trafficking networks. Common policy and legal measures, combined with public security and development strategies, should be adopted to combat those scourges, which particularly affected Central America and the Caribbean. Looking towards the global compact on refugees, the Government of Honduras and UNHCR would host a regional high-level conference on migration in San Pedro Sula on 26 October 2017, bringing together different countries of the Americas, international organizations, civil society representatives and academics. That event would provide an opportunity to examine the main elements to be included in a strategy of cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination.

29. **Mr. Gerahu** (Observer for Eritrea) said that the use of migrants, displaced persons and refugees as a political tool to vilify, isolate and destabilize targeted countries had reached an unprecedented level. Such attitudes threatened global peace, security and development and led to the displacement of populations. The experience of Eritrea in the previous 20 years was symbolic of that reality. Sovereign Eritrean territories continued to be occupied by Ethiopia, while Eritrea faced unjust United Nations sanctions as well as attempts at destabilization. Some Western countries, Ethiopia and international organizations were complicit in the ploy. Furthermore, camps hosting Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia were used as a rear base by organizations engaged in human trafficking. Despite that situation, Eritrea continued to pursue its development, and the number of Eritreans seeking to leave was at a historic low, despite the sensational and erroneous figures cited by some countries to tarnish the image of Eritrea. The assertion by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea, Sheila B. Keetharuth, in her report of 2014, that at the current rate of emigration there would be no one left behind in the country in a few years, was unacceptable. The Government believed that displaced persons and migrants should receive all the support that they needed and that their dignity, security and development should be respected. For that reason, it was working to strengthen cooperation on migration at the bilateral, regional and international levels and had embarked on a dialogue with UNHCR.

30. **Mr. Meimou** (Observer for Mauritania), fully endorsing the statement delivered by Togo on behalf of the African Group, confirmed his Government's commitment to protecting refugees and asylum seekers on Mauritanian territory, including 2,000 displaced persons living in urban areas and some 52,000 Malian refugees in the Mbera camp. In accordance with the provisions of the tripartite agreement signed with Mali and UNHCR in June 2016, the Government of Mauritania emphasized its willingness to support the repatriation of Malian refugees in safety and dignity, when the situation permitted, while ensuring the voluntary nature of repatriations. For that purpose, it was committed to issuing birth and marriage certificates to Malian refugees. The Government was concerned about the reduction in the budget of the World Food Programme and its partners, which had repercussions for the humanitarian assistance that was urgently needed by the inhabitants of the Mbera camp, who were particularly vulnerable and isolated. Consequently, Mauritania called on development actors to redouble efforts to promote the empowerment of refugees in the country and to increase investment in the border area around Mbera. That region had suffered a severe drought in 2017, and the more than 40,000 Mauritanians living there had shared their scarce water and pasture resources with over 50,000 refugees for more than five years.

31. **Mr. Grandi** (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) welcomed the delegations' expressions of support for the activities of UNHCR. He thanked Peru for its efforts to assist the many Venezuelan refugees on its territory. UNHCR continued to study, at the technical level and in coordination with the host country Algeria, the registration procedure for refugees in the Tindouf camps. It was working with the World Food Programme to find a solution to the problem of the reduction in the food aid supplied to the Mbera camp, where tens of thousands of Malian refugees were living. UNHCR believed that Eritrea should strive to address the causes of emigration flows, and it welcomed the resumption of dialogue with that country.

The meeting rose at 6.05 p.m.